

JAN 11 1990

30/01/03

The Harvest

Editor's Message

Well yes, The Harvest is still around. As things stand now, this should be the final format change for a while. The magazine style that appeared last october required too much computer work that could not be performed by untrained persons, and training was impossible. It was also very time consuming and labour intensive and thus could not be published on a short-interval, regular basis that would have really made it a useful element of the College.

So this is our solution: a weekly single-sheet stenciled newsletter. We are hoping that by lessening turn-around time for publication of your submissions from three weeks to a few days we will be able to make The Harvest an efficient means of communicating information and opinions in a manner unavailable in the Mouthpiece or Campus Happenings. Such a publication is lacking on our campus, and the old Harvest was not fulfilling this role.

Thus we can now almost guarantee that articles or letters submitted at Harrison House by Thursday will be printed and circulating by the following Tuesday. There are some limitations to our new format; we can publish fewer long articles in an issue, we cannot include pictures and the print quality is not as high as it has been in the past. However one advantage other than continuity is that there is a possibility of printing it on recycled paper, an option that our old printers were incapable of offering.

Best wishes for the new year and the new semester, and write us some material!

Message de l'éditeur

Et oui! Le Harvest existe encore. Si aucun autre obstacle ne se présente ceci devrait bien être le dernier changement de format du Harvest pour quelque temps. Notre "magazine" d'octobre dernier était bien beau mais nécessitait trop de travail informatise qui ne pouvait être effectuée par des personnes sans entraînement. Cet entraînement c'est avéré impossible et les éditions de novembre et décembre ne furent pas publiées malgré nos bonnes intentions. Le travail requis par cet ancien format était trop long pour que le Harvest puisse jamais devenir un organe de transmission d'informations comme il devait être.

Voici donc la solution: un petit bulletin hebdomadaire. Nous espérons qu'en réduisant de quelques semaines le temps entre la soumission de vos articles et leur parution nous pourrions devenir un moyen intéressant et efficace de présenter vos articles et vos opinions à la population du collège. Ce rôle n'est pas joué par le Mouthpiece ni le Campus Happenings et n'était pas très bien rempli par l'ancien Harvest au rythme de parution irrégulier et maladif.

Dorénavant, nous pouvons donc vous assurer qu'un article soumis le jeudi matin au Harrison House paraîtra le mardi suivant. Bien entendu certains désavantages se présentent, nous ne pouvons plus imprimer d'articles bien longs, ni de photos et de plus la qualité d'impression est fortement diminuée. Heureusement il nous sera bientôt possible d'imprimer sur du papier recycle, ce qui était impossible chez nos anciens imprimeurs.

Bonne et heureuse année et n'oubliez pas de nous écrire quelques lettres ou articles, Merci.

Paul Chamberland
Editor/Editeur

SO, WHAT'S IN IT FOR ME?!

FACT: Macdonald students pay \$660 per year in tuition (including hidden fees like the "course materials charges".)

FACT: The Canadian national average tuition fee, per year, is \$1550.

FACT: Student tuition fees in Québec have been "frozen" since 1969.

FACT: The new Québec government has planned to implement tuition fee increases within the near future.

In light of the facts stated above, it looks like Macdonald students have been enjoying a (relatively) free ride for a while now. In light of the increase considered above, it looks like we should prepare to pay a little more bus fare, metaphorically speaking.

The issue of Québec university funding is a difficult one. Students know well the difficulties of earning enough money to cover food and rent costs during 8 months of study, let alone enough to pay increasing tuition fees. However, as a victim of Québec relative underfunding (such an ugly phrase, isn't it?!) McGill has tried to trim all the excess fat it can to spare students added expense yet provide a decent education, until now,

when skeletal amputations are scheduled unless drastic first aid gets here PRETTY *!# QUICK!

Aside from the ideological appeal of being (at least partially) responsible for one's own educational costs, increased tuition fees provide very concrete benefits that touch all students. Teaching assistants, library journal subscriptions and lab. equipment maintenance are three examples of ESSENTIAL educational aids that are suffering due to lack of funding. By helping McGill maintain its excellent reputation, students will help themselves to better schooling and better job opportunities.

Now, when it's known that tuition fee increases are being planned by the government, is the time to show the Bourassa administration that we care about university education and are willing to invest in a sure thing if the government will listen to and respect our needs. Within the coming weeks, members of the Macdonald Students Society will be drawing up a letter to be sent to Québec, identifying student concerns that MUST be considered when the fee increase policy is drawn up. Because it's such an emotional issue, the letter will not be endorsed by Macdonald Students Society as a whole, but by any individuals who wish to sign, allowing all Macdonald students their right to individual expression.

Before signing or not signing, please read what the document says and decide your position once you've gotten the facts. McGill's future depends on it.

Jean Rawling

Why doesn't the ARC Recycle Newspaper

Students and staff who faithfully deposit their used paper in the ARC recycling bins will have noticed the sudden appearance of "No Newspaper! Pas de Papier Journal!" signs. This has frustrated many, since most of the paper we throw out is newspaper. But this fact is part of the problem: vast amounts of newsprint are already being recycled; and, since it is of lower quality than writing paper, there is almost no market for recycled newspaper. No transport company is willing to pick up Macdonald College's newspaper.

While writing paper is made from short, resistant hardwood fibres, newspaper is made from softwood pulp: these fibres are too weak to be recycled. Newspaper also contains a lot of ink; and there are, at present, no newspaper de-inking plants in Quebec.

Although recycled writing paper, mixed with some fresh pulp for extra strength, can be made into paper bags, egg cartons, toilet paper and even new writing paper, newspaper can only be recycled into products such as some forms of packaging and home insulation.

So much newspaper is already being collected from communities (who pay the companies the collect their recyclables) and large universities, that a glut has formed on the already small market for recycled newspaper.

The fact that newsprint decomposes faster than writing paper (and therefore cannot be stored for any length of time), as well as its small commercial value, has made recycling companies reluctant to collect newspaper; so reluctant in fact that none are willing to collect

any more of it.

The company ARC dealt with in the past quit picking up our recyclables, because the college was too far, produced too small quantities of recyclables and too great a percentage of newspaper (66-75% of total paper). Recuperation Maronniers Inc. have agreed to collect the college's white paper, but not our newsprint. No company in Montreal is willing to pick up Mac's newspaper.

At present, all that can be done is to continue recycling white paper and to work toward establishing a municipal recycling program in Ste-Anne-de-Bellevue.

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THE ROYAL IS COMING!!!!

Put these dates on your calendar: February 9, 10, and 11, 1990. They mark the fourth-second annual Macdonald College Royal. The Royal is the college's open house, and the biggest campus event of the year. It is the two and a half days where we invite the world onto campus to show them what we do here; to show them that Old Macdonald does have a farm, but quite a bit more as well. The Royal features booths, demonstrations, tours and activities which represent the various programs on campus. There is also the intercollegiate livestock show at the farm center, along with a full complement of social activities.

This year's theme is, "Where will we be Tomorrow?", and in keeping with this forward-looking theme, it's not too soon to start thinking about how you're going to be involved. First, plan to be on campus for the weekend of the Royal - and what better time to invite your

family and friends to come for a visit?

Every department and each year of the Diploma program will be asked to run a booth of some kind, using posters, demonstrations, audio-visual, or hands-on activities to illustrate what their program is all about, and to tie this in with the "Where will we be Tomorrow?" theme. Use your imagination, and above all, get started soon. Come up with ideas, form a group, and talk to the chairperson of your department. There will be a plaque awarded to the department with the best booth as well as a cash prize directly to the students who put the booth together.

To get in touch with us, leave a message for the Royal Committee at Harrison House, either with Jean or Joan, or call Ingrid and/or Jane at 457-9208.

SEE YOU AT THE ROYAL!!

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Double majors at Mac

Have you ever thought of doing a double major? Did you know that it is not possible presently to do a double major at Mac? Double majors are currently offered downtown, the problem with the Macdonald campus curriculum, is that everybody receives a B.Sc. in agriculture regardless of the specialization. Many programs are offered but the completion of core courses in one or more specializations only results in a single major degree, such as biology, renewable resources, etc.. The committee for curricula should take into account that many "specializations" are very different and if a student fills all the requirements for any two majors, it should appear in his transcript. Right now, the only possibility is to do a

minor in ecological agriculture and a major in anything else. Some minors are being studied presently, but the subject of double majors has not been discussed. I personally am interested in the possibility of doing a double major. If there are others who are interested in doing a double major, make your request known either in the Mouthpiece or the next issue of the Harvest.

Environmental biology (Botany?) Student.

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CFSEA

The Macdonald College Junior CFSEA branch is very proud of its members. On Monday, November 21st 1989, a senior dinner was held and five of our members were acknowledged for their efforts. The following students were honorary recipients of CFSEA Bursary Awards of \$300 each; Brigitte Marcoux, Isabelle Claveau, Silvana Ricci, Julie Nadeau, and Caroline Breton.

The bursaries were awarded on the basis of academic standing, industry experience, implication within the branch, and financial needs. I would like to congratulate the members and take the opportunity to thank the Senior Branch sponsors for this generosity and support.

Our branch will continue its hard work and the winter semester will be an action time for all our members with events such as the blood drive (March), the balloon-a-gram (Valentine Day), a possible tour of the food service installations of the Canadian Armed Forces base in St-Jean, and fundraising events. We are looking forward to the participation of all our members at all these events for the success of our branch.